

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4 at line 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

(Q2) In a second aspect, the invention as disclosed herein comprises a method for the treatment of an individual suffering from a disorder of bone or prostate growth, or considered to be at risk of so suffering. This method of treatment comprises the administration to said individual of a therapeutically effective amount of a formulation containing, as an active principal, a peptide according to the sequence (SEQ ID NO: 7).

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6 at line 27 with the following rewritten paragraph:

(Q3) Microencapsulated formulations can be prepared either from the solid peptide (as a powder) or from a solution, and particularly an aqueous solution, of the peptide. The polymer is first dissolved in a suitable organic solvent. The peptide is then added to this solution and the mixture is vigorously stirred to disperse the peptide in the organic phase. A second organic solvent is then added. This second solvent is chosen to reduce the solubility of the polymer in the organic phase. The polymer comes out of solution to form a coating around the particles of solid peptide (SEQ ID NO: 6) (or around the droplets of dispersed aqueous solution). The resultant microcapsules are then hardened by washing to remove traces of the organic solvents. They are then ready to be suspended in an appropriate liquid for administration.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9 at line 6 with the following rewritten paragraph:

(Q4) 1B. Cleavage and deprotection (SEQ ID NO: 6).

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 2, and add new claims 7-13 as follows:

(Q5) 1. (Amended) A pharmaceutical formulation for the controlled release of a therapeutic peptide or a salt thereof, which peptide has the sequence (SEQ ID NO: 7)

pyro Glu-His-Trp-Ser-Xaa¹-Gly-Xaa²-Xaa³-Pro-Gly-NH₂

wherein Xaa¹ is His or Tyr,

Xaa² is Trp or Leu, and

Xaa³ is Tyr or Arg,

provided that when Xaa¹ is Tyr and Xaa² is Leu, then Xaa³ is not Arg.

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cont
and which formulation further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable biodegradable polymer.

2. (Amended) The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 1, wherein the peptide is (SEQ ID NO: 6)

pyroGlu-His-Trp-Ser-His-Gly-Trp-Tyr-Pro-Gly-NH₂

7. (New) A formulation according to claim 1 for treatment of, or for

protection against, disorder of bone growth or disorder of prostate growth.

8. (New) The use of peptide or salt as defined in claim 1, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable biodegradable polymer, for the preparation of a controlled release medicament for the treatment of, or protection against, disorder of bone growth or disorder of prostate growth.

9. A use according to claim 8, wherein said polymer is

- (a) a polymer of a hydroxy derivative of a carboxylic acid, or a co-polymer of such derivatives, or
- (b) a polymer of glycolic acid, a polymer of lactic acid, or a co-polymer of lactic and glycolic acids.

10. (New) A use according to claim 8, wherein said disorder is selected from age-related osteoporosis, osteoporosis associated with post-menopausal hormone status, primary and secondary hyperparathyroidism, disuse osteoporosis, diabetes-related osteoporosis, glucocorticoid-related osteoporosis, benign prostatic hyperplasia and prostate cancer.

11. (New) A formulation according to claim 7 for the treatment of, or protection against, disorder selected from age-related osteoporosis, osteoporosis associated with post-menopausal hormone status, primary and secondary hyperparathyroidism, disuse osteoporosis, diabetes-related osteoporosis, glucocorticoid-related osteoporosis, benign prostatic hyperplasia and prostate cancer.

12. (New) A method for treating or protecting against a human disorder of bone growth or of prostate growth, which method comprises the administration to an individual in need of such treatment or protection of a therapeutically effective amount